

**REMARKS**

Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the time taken by Examiner Nguyen on June 22, 2005 to conduct a telephonic interview with Applicant's representative in relation to the Office Action of June 16, 2005 rendered in relation to the above-identified patent application. In that Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claim 16, 19-22, 24, 25, 28-31, 34 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §112 due to such claims purportedly containing subject matter not described in the specification of the present application. Additionally, Claims 16, 17, 20, 23-26, 29-32 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by the Okumura et al. reference, with Claims 19, 21, 22, 28 and 34 being rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over the combination of the Okumura et al. reference and Prior Art Figures 1 and 3.

During the telephone interview, Applicant's representative directed the Examiner's attention to Figure 4 of the present application as originally filed, and explained to the Examiner why the showing in Figure 4 coupled with the showings in Figures 6 and 7 and the corresponding passages of the specification of the present application conclusively demonstrate that all of the features of those claims rejected under Section 112 are fully shown and described in the originally filed application. At the conclusion of this discussion, Examiner Nguyen acknowledged that Applicant's representative had successfully established that the Section 112 rejection presented in the subject Office Action was inapplicable, and should be withdrawn.

With regard to the Section 102(e) and Section 103(a) rejections based on the Okumura et al. reference, the Examiner also stated to Applicant's representative that in view of the withdrawal of the Section 112 rejection, the currently pending claims were no longer impacted by the Okumura et al. reference and were distinguishable over the teachings of such reference.

Based on the foregoing, it is Applicant's understanding that there are no outstanding rejections at issue in relation to the currently pending claims of the present application. Accordingly, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance in relation to the present application is respectfully requested.

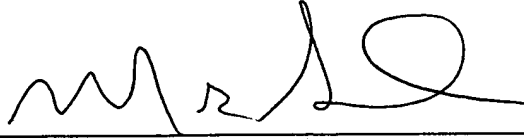
Application No.: 09/687,048  
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If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account Number 19-4330.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/5/05

By:



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